

Earwax

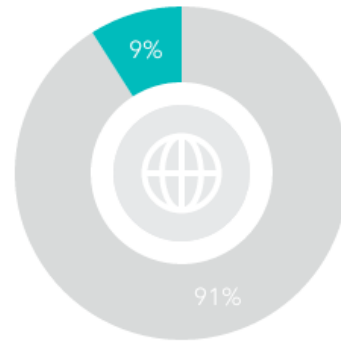
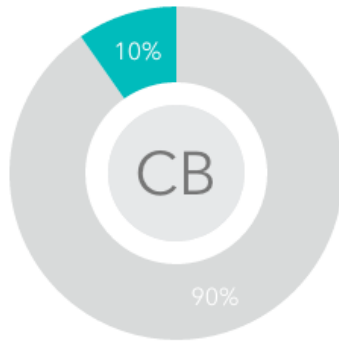
Earwax is something that most people try not to think about. But look a little closer, and you'll learn that it actually comes in two types. Which type you have is mostly determined by your genes.

Earwax Type

What You Can Do

Cordell, you are likely to have wet earwax.

90% of customers who are genetically similar to you have wet earwax.



Your genetic likelihood

- Wet earwax 90%
- Dry earwax 10%

European ancestry customers

- 91% Wet earwax ●
- 9% Dry earwax ●

This prediction applies best to people of European descent. We analyzed your DNA at one genetic marker that studies have shown is associated with earwax type. Your prediction is based on data from 23andMe customers who consented to research and are genetically similar to you at this marker.

About Earwax Type

Dry earwax is flaky and light-colored compared to wet earwax, which is dark-colored and sticky.



Genetics

The type of earwax you have is almost entirely dependent on one variant in the ABCC11 gene. This gene contains the information for a protein that transports fatty substances. Changes in the ABCC11 gene result in less fat being moved into earwax, causing a dry consistency.



Ancestry

Most people of East Asian descent have the ABCC11 variant causing dry earwax. People of other ethnicities often lack this variant and have wet earwax.



Other factors

There are other things you might like to know about earwax.



Function



Body odor



History



Do more with your Traits results.



Help us develop more trait reports by contributing to research.

Contribute



Compare your results to your family and friends.

Compare



Join the discussion with other 23andMe customers interested in Traits.

Discuss

 Patent Pending

Your Physical Characteristics

Scientific Details

[Methodology](#)

[About Your Results](#)

[References](#)

We use two different methods to calculate your trait results.

Statistical Model

Most traits are influenced by many different factors, including genetics, lifestyle, and environment. Usually, a statistical model using many factors provides better predictions than looking at single factors by themselves. To develop our models, we first identify genetic markers associated with a trait using data from tens of thousands of 23andMe customers who have consented to research. Then, we use statistical methods to generate a "score" for that trait using your genotype at the relevant genetic markers as well as your age and sex. We predict your likelihood of having different versions of the trait based on the survey responses of 23andMe customers with similar scores. These predictions apply best to customers who are of the same ethnicity as the people whose data contributed to the model. The accuracy of these predictions varies from trait to trait.

[Read more about our statistical methodology](#)

Curated Model

For some traits, just a few genetic markers can strongly predict whether a person will have a particular version of the trait. For curated models, we first evaluate published scientific studies to identify genetic markers with well-established associations with the trait. Then, we look at genetic and survey data from tens of thousands of 23andMe customers who have consented to research. We estimate your likelihood of having different versions of the trait based on survey responses from customers who are genetically similar to you at those markers. These results apply best to customers who are of the same ethnicity as the people whose data contributed to the predictions.

About your Earwax Type result

Your result for this trait was calculated using a **curated model**.

Variants Detected

1

View All Tested Markers

1

Marker Tested

Your Genotype*

Additional Information

538G>A

Gene: ABCC11

Marker:

[rs17822931](#)

C

Typical copy from
one of your
parents



T

Variant copy from
your other parent

> **Biological explanation**

> **Typical vs. variant DNA sequence(s)**

> **Percent of 23andMe customers with variant**

> **References [[13](#), [15](#)]**

*This test cannot distinguish which copy you received from which parent. This test also cannot determine whether multiple variants, if detected, were inherited from only one parent or from both parents. This may impact how these variants are passed down.

23andMe always reports genotypes based on the 'positive' strand of the human genome reference sequence (build 37). Other sources sometimes report genotypes using the opposite strand.

References

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